

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has used disproportionate force in the bombings of civilian targets in Chechnya which has resulted in the deaths of thousands of innocent civilians and the displacement of well over 250,000 others;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has refused to engage in negotiations with the Chechen resistance toward a just peace and instead has charged Chechen President Aslan Maskhadov with armed mutiny and issued a warrant for his arrest;

Whereas Russian authorities deny access to regions in and around Chechnya by the international community, including officials of the United Nations, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe, and maintain a virtual ban on access to Chechen civilians by media and international humanitarian organizations, including the International Federation of the Red Cross;

Whereas these restrictions severely limited the ability of these organizations to ascertain the extent of the humanitarian crisis and to provide humanitarian relief;

Whereas even limited testimony and general investigation by international organizations credibly reported widespread looting, summary executions, detentions, denial of safe passage to fleeing civilians, torture and rape committed by Russian soldiers;

Whereas there are credible reports of specific atrocities committed by Russian soldiers in Chechnya, including the rampages in Alkhan-Yurt where 17 persons were killed in December 1999 and in the Staropromyslovsky district of Grozny where 44 persons were killed in December 1999; and the rapes of Chechen prisoners in the Chernokosovo detention camp;

Whereas these credible reports indicate clear violations of international human rights standards and law that must be investigated, and those responsible must be held accountable; and

Whereas United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson proposed on February 20, 2000, the prosecution of Russian military commanders for overseeing "executions, tortures, and rapes"; and

Whereas the Senate expresses its concern over the conflict and humanitarian tragedy in Chechnya, and its desire for a peaceful resolution and durable settlement to the conflict: Now, therefore, be it.

Resolved, That it is the Sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Government of the Russian Federation—

(A) immediately cease its military operations in Chechnya and initiate negotiations toward a just peace with the leadership of the Chechen Government, including President Aslan Maskhadov;

(B) allow into and around Chechnya international missions to monitor and report on the situation there and to investigate alleged atrocities and war crimes;

(C) allow international humanitarian agencies immediate full and unimpeded access to Chechen civilians, including those in refugee, detention and so called "filtration camps" or any other facility where citizens of Chechnya are detained; and

(D) investigate fully the atrocities committed in Chechnya including those alleged in Alkhan-Yurt, and Grozny, and initiate prosecutions against those officers and soldiers accused.

(2) the President of the United States of America—

(A) should promote peace negotiations between the Government of the Russian Federation and the leadership of the Chechen Government, including President Aslan Maskhadov, through third party mediation by the OSCE, United Nations or other appropriate parties;

(B) endorse the call of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for an investigation of alleged war crimes committed by the Russian military in Chechnya; and

(C) should take tangible steps to demonstrate to the Government of the Russian Federation that the United States strongly condemns its brutal conduct in Chechnya and its unwillingness to find a just political solution to the conflict in Chechnya.

ORDER FOR STAR PRINT—S. 824

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a star print of S. 824 be made with the changes that are at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2000

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 12 noon on Monday, February 28. I further ask consent that on Monday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then proceed to a period for the transaction of morning business until 2 p.m., with Senators speaking for up to 5 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator DURBIN, or his designee, from 12 noon until 1 p.m.; Senator THOMAS, or his designee, from 1 to 2 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWNBAC. Following morning business, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume consideration of S. 1134 and that the majority leader be immediately recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. BROWNBAC. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will convene at 12 noon on Monday and will be in a period of morning business until 2 p.m. Following morning business, the Senate will resume debate on the education savings accounts legislation. As a reminder, cloture was filed on the bill today with the cloture vote scheduled to occur at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 29. Pursuant to rule XXII, all first-degree amendments must be filed by 1 p.m. on Monday. For the information of all Senators, the leader has announced there will be no rollcall votes during Monday's session of the Senate.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2000

Mr. BROWNBAC. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous

consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:55 p.m., adjourned until Monday, February 28, 2000, at 12 noon.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate February 24, 2000:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PATRICK FRANCIS KENNEDY, OF ILLINOIS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE EUROPEAN OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR, VICE GEORGE EDWARD MOOSE.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

NINA V. FEDOROFF, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 10, 2006, VICE CLAUDIA I. MITCHELL-KERNAN.

DIANA S. NATALICIO, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 10, 2006. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR PROMOTION IN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASSES INDICATED:

CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER:

MATTIE R. SHARPLESS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR:

PETER O. KURZ, OF MARYLAND
KENNETH J. ROBERTS, OF MISSOURI

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR PROMOTION INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE TO THE CLASS INDICATED:

CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

ALLAN P. MUSTARD, OF WASHINGTON
HOWARD R. WETZEL, OF VIRGINIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED PERSONS OF THE AGENCIES INDICATED FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF THE CLASSES STATED, AND ALSO FOR THE OTHER APPOINTMENTS INDICATED HEREWITH:

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER OF CLASS TWO, CONSULAR OFFICER AND SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NANCY M. MCKAY, OF VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BRIAN I. MCCLEARY, OF VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FRANK JOSEPH LEDAHAWSKY, OF WEST VIRGINIA

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF CLASS THREE, CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MARGARET MCFADDIN HARRITT, OF VIRGINIA
DIANE M. LEACH, OF VIRGINIA
CARRIE A. THOMPSON, OF CONNECTICUT
ANNETTE ELIZABETH TUEBNER, OF VIRGINIA
ROGER YOCHELSON, OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

JAMES F. SULLIVAN, OF FLORIDA
MARILYN J. TAYLOR, OF TEXAS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DONNA MICHAELS, OF WASHINGTON
SUSAN BUTLER NIBLOCK, OF TENNESSEE

FOR APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF CLASS FOUR, CONSULAR OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PATRICIA O. ATTKISSON, OF VIRGINIA
COURTNEY E. AUSTRIAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
VEOMAYOURY BACCAM, OF IOWA
DOUGLASS R. BENNING, OF NEW YORK
MARIA E. BREWER, OF INDIANA
KERRY L. BROUHAM, OF CALIFORNIA
JULIE J. CHUNG, OF CALIFORNIA
CARMELA A. CONROY, OF WASHINGTON
JOSEPH GALLAZZI, OF FLORIDA
DAVID J. GREENE, OF NEW YORK